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Tuesday, July 1, 1958

Good weather at last. Sunny this morning. The dogs spent most of yesterday chasing goldfish in the little garden pond -- we have had to drain it and put the terrified fish temporarily in the cellar.

After the office, I went to the skeet range and fired my two Spanish 20-gauge guns. They are fine pieces; I proved unworthy of them.

Long talk with Martin Hillenbrand about our various Berlin troubles, the complications of dealing with our own military (whose views on political affairs are sometimes naive or impractical for purposes of negotiation), etc. Gufler is away on holiday.

Tonight E and I went to one of the current film festival productions, a French piece, "La Loi C'est La Loi", with Fernandel in it. There were no American feature pictures being shown tonight. It was a mediocre film, but shown in one of the most attractive modern theatres I have ever seen, the Zoo Palast. There is at least one advantage in having one's city destroyed; it can be rebuilt without attention to previous architectural canons. Most

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of the new buildings in Berlin make free use of newly developed materials, utilizing huge glass windows, much aluminum, flat surfaces, thus creating a light appearance. The classical is here outmoded.

Wednesday, July 2, 1958

A sunny day, broken by a thunderstorm in the afternoon. Another long conversation with Hillenbrand on access problems. The U.S. Army, still believing in the possibility of doing business with the Soviets on a reciprocal officer-gentleman basis is now tasting the bitter draught of deception.

Willian Goetz, the head of the American Film Delegation to the festival came to see me this afternoon, with Hochstetter and a representative of USIS. We talked about censorship, its impracticality and inefficiency. A good example of this is the effort of General Geze, the local French Commandant, to invoke a three-power ban on an American picture, "Paths to Glory". It seems it reflected discredit on the French General Staff in connection with fictitious episodes in World War One. The U.S. refused to use its occupation authority to prohibit the showing. The producers canceled its appearance during the festival--the result is a great demand to see it later on. Goetz thinks it a poor spectacle, but it will become a box-office success in Germany because public curiosity has been aroused over it.

We left tonight by train for Mehlem.

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Thursday, July 3, 1958

We returned this morning from Berlin and I found an abundance of complications awaiting me here, chiefly in regard to Berlin access.

I went to a lunch for various American museum directors who were guests of the Federal Government. They were Messrs. Richard E. Fuller from Seattle Washington; Thomas Carr Howe of San Francisco, California; Reginald Poland, Atlanta, Georgia; Daniel Rich, Chicago; Millard Sheets, Los Angeles; Hanns Swarzenski, Boston; and Carl Zigrosser of Philadelphia. It was a great pleasure to hear their stimulating conversation on a subject so far removed from politics.

Mr. D. G. Truman, introduced by George V. Allen, an American citizen and representative of the Greek Powder and Cartridge Company came to seek my advice on how to enforce an alleged contract between this Greek Government sponsored firm and the German Ministry of Defense. I told him our Embassy could take no part in what seemed to be a controversy between two foreign governments and made informal comments which I hope may prove helpful as to how he might approach his task.

John Bross came to see me, and later rode down with me to the Bonn railroad station where the Canadian Ambassador and myself joined Adenauer and Brentano with a large FedRep delegation to welcome President Heuss back home.

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The old gentleman got off his Bremerhaven train from which poured after him his large staff of fellow-travelers, beet red from ten days of sun bathing on a slow ship. Heuss had unquestionably thoroughly enjoyed his tour of Canada and the United States. Quite a large crowd was waiting in the station to see him. He is a deservedly popular figure.

David Ginsburg, a Washington lawyer, came to see me this evening to tell me of certain proposals he intends to make to the Ministry of Finance about the German Assets problem. I explained to him, as I have so often to others in the past, our attitude locally regarding this issue. It has been handled from the beginning in Washington and we have confined our connection with it to forwarding messages from the German Government on the subject.

Paul Metternich spent the night with us--his wife is suffering from concussion as a result of a bad automobile accident and could not come. We had the following guests to dinner: the Ambassador of Canada and Mrs. Reid; the Minister of Ireland and Mrs. Warnock; Prince von Metternich; Captain and Mrs. Urzaiz; Prince and Princess Ludwig zu Sayn Wittgenstein; Count and Countess Galen; Dr. and Mrs. Gerhard Neumann; General and Mrs. Herbert B. Thatcher; Mr. and Mrs. John Bross; Mr. and Mrs. Ides van der Gracht and Mr. Alfred Wells.

Friday, July 4, 1958

It was sunny and warm this morning, a bad omen here for weather

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the rest of the day. I went to the Flag Pole Ceremonies and made a short speech in which I mentioned one item of considerable interest to the audience. This was the odd coincidence that both John Adams and Thomas Jefferson [redacted] died on the same Fourth of July, and James Monroe on that date a few years later, so three out of the first five Presidents of the United States had celebrated this anniversary in an unusual fashion.

We [redacted] asked about 750 people to the Independence Day reception this afternoon. Although there were tents in the garden, the sky was so threatening we had the house cleared of furniture to try to make space for the guests. Fortunately there was little rain so the garden was usable from time to time. I thought it went off [redacted] well. Ollenhauer, Erhard, Etzel and many other political figures came, as well as most of the diplomats. By agreement with the Philippine Embassy we [redacted] set our hours from 5:00 to 7:00 and they held their reception, which we attended, from 6:30 to 8:00.

At ten o'clock Sasha and I went to the Bells' to see the fireworks set off by Community Services. It was a magnificent sight and the noise as terrific as that from a heavy bombing. The streets were thronged with Germans watching [redacted] the spectacle.

Saturday, July 5, 1958

Office in the morning. I [redacted] intended to go today to the International Horse Show at Aachen but had to call it off in order to attend to business here.

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General Hodes called me this morning from Heidelberg. He is much exercised over the military convoy and truck situation in Berlin and wants us to deliver another ultimatum to the Soviets. He is sending me a telegram on the subject. The telegram arrived late this afternoon and I went over it with Rebecca Wellington.

Sunday, July 6, 1958

Rebecca arrived this morning and we had a long talk about the possibilities of establishing a harmonious American position regarding our Berlin troubles. We decided to have a meeting between Hodes and his experts and myself and our experts as soon as practicable.

At three o'clock this afternoon E and I left with the Steels to go fishing in the British Embassy stretch of the River Ahr. It is a trip of about 40 miles to where the British group has a 4-mile portion of river. The Ahr was roiled because of recent rains and was too muddy for dry fly fishing. The best time of day is just before dark from between 8:30 to 9:00. However, there were [redacted] few trout rising. I caught a good one and several small victims, which I threw back, on a tiny wet fly. We had a picnic supper and altogether it was one of the [redacted] pleasant afternoons I [redacted] ever spent anywhere. We returned home about 11:30.

Monday, July 7, 1958

I talked to General Hodes this morning and we have arranged for a meeting here next Friday.

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I received a rather complete account of the Dulles-de Gaulle conversations and took it around, according to the instructions contained in it, for Kit Steel to read.

We had lunch today for the Greek Ambassador and Mrs. Capetanides; Mrs. Marjoribanks, wife of the British Minister for Economics; Dr. Ernst Friedlaender, President of the Atlantik-Bruecke; Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Gufler; Mr. and Mrs. Francis Cunningham and Pastor John Sutton.

I received today for transmittal to the Chancellor a letter from the Secretary dated June 30 in answer to Adenauer's letter to him dated the 16th (texts on following pages 185 through 190).

The CDU won a great victory in the North Rhine-Westphalian elections yesterday, improving its percentage of the vote over the last Land election there by 14%. In effect, that has brought about a two-party system in the area since the FDP with 7.1% of the vote was the only other party to qualify.

I saw two groups of new arrivals and conferred with van der Gracht over the optioned piece of land in Berlin. We got off a telegram on the subject.

Gaston Coblentz called to see me. He has been in Geneva on the outskirts of the technical talks regarding atomic testing. It is too soon, in his opinion, to determine how well or badly they are going.

Harold Sweatt, Chairman of the Board of the Honeywell Corporation,

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